

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 IO-14 DHA-02 EB-07 AID-05 OMB-01

TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /118 W

-----058899 232029Z /63

R 231347Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3965

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

UNCLAS OSLO 2945

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NO, RH, SF, NO, BC

SUBJECT: VISIT OF BOTSWANA'S VICE PRESIDENT TO NORWAY

1. SUMMARY: BOTSWANA'S VICE PRESIDENT AND MINISTER OF FINANCE DR. O. MASIRE STATED THAT THERE IS GOOD HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN RHODESIA AT JUNE 21 PRESS CONFERENCE IN OSLO. MASIRE WAS HERE TO SIGN AN AID AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY. AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE HE EMPHASIZED THAT RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT IS DEPENDENT ON U.S. AND SOUTH AFRICA, AND NOT ON IAN SMITH. END SUMMARY.

2. DR. Q. MASIRE, VICE PRESIDENT AND MINISTER OF FINANCE OF BOTSWANA, WAS IN OSLO JUNE 21 TO SIGN AN AID AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY. MASIRE HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE THE SAME DAY, AT WHICH HE STATED THAT THERE WAS GOOD HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA, BUT THAT A SETTLEMENT WAS DEPENDENT ON ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS OF THE U.S. AND SOUTH AFRICA, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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NOT ON THOSE OF IAN SMITH. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE MILITANTS AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT DESIRED A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN SPITE OF THE SPREADING GUERILLA WAR. GUERILLA LEADERS, HE SAID, ARE WILLING TO HOLD BACK ON MILITARY ACTION IF THERE IS HOPE OF A PEACEFUL SOLUTION.

3. ON NAMIBIA, MASIRE REMARKED THE SITUATION WAS MUCH

BETTER THAN IN RHODESIA, BUT THAT THE KEY TO A SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA WAS ASSURANCE OF THE RIGHT OF ALL PARTIES - INCLUDING SWAPO - TO TAKE PART IN FREE ELECTIONS. MASIRE SAID IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY IF THE GUERILLAS OR THE MODERATES HAD MORE INFLUENCE IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA.

4. THE AID AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY WILL PROVIDE HELP FOR RHODESIAN REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA, AND FOR PROTECTION OF THE COUNTRY'S CATTLE FROM PESTILENCE AND THE RAVAGES OF MILITARY ACTION.

5. COMMENT: NORWAY CONTINUES TO HAVE HIGH INTEREST IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS. ZAPU LEADER JOSHUA NKOMO, FOR EXAMPLE, ARRIVED JUNE 20 FOR TWO DAYS OF TALKS WITH FM FRYDENLUND AND MFA OFFICIALS. BREMER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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